

CONGRESSMAN **JESSE L. JACKSON JR.**
PROUDLY SERVING THE 2nd DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

For Immediate Release

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JACKSON CALLS BILL SIGNING A 'SHINING, DEFINING MOMENT'

Washington, D.C. -- Congressman Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. made today this statement following President Barack Obama signing of historic health reform legislation at the White House.

"This is a shining, defining moment in our nation's history. We've reached at long last a day that was a century in the making -- a day when nearly every American has access to quality, affordable health care.

"When it is fully implemented, this new law will put the American people -- not the insurance companies -- in control of their own health care. It expands health care coverage to 32 million uninsured Americans and strengthens the coverage of the hundreds of millions who already have it.

"With Congress passing and the president signing this law, we've proved to the American

people that we can seize the moment and shape the future. At our best, we rise above our fears and doubts to meet our obligations and commitments.

"Social Security reflected our nation's decency. Medicare reflected our compassion. And, now, health care reform reflects our promise and character. This new law saves lives and perfects our Union.

"Today, we are a better, stronger, healthier and greater nation."

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